

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-41. (Canceled).

42. (Currently Amended) A data processor comprising:
a reading device which reads an image to produce image data;
an extracting device which extracts additional data embedded in a plurality of positions in the image data read by said reading device; and
a decision device which decides, based on a comparison of the additional data extracted by said extracting device from at least one of the plurality of positions with the additional data extracted from at least one of the other of the plurality of positions,
whether the image data is ~~counterfeited~~ forged or not.

43. (Currently Amended) ~~A data processor according to claim 43, further comprising-~~ A data processor comprising:
a reading device which reads an image to produce image data;
an extracting device which extracts additional data embedded in the image data read by said reading device;
a measuring device which measures [[an area]] a dimension of a pattern included in the image; and
a decision device which decides whether the image data is forged or not, wherein said decision device performs the decision by comparing the [[area]] dimension measured by said measuring device with the additional data.

44. (Currently Amended) A data processor ~~according to claim 43, further~~ comprising:

a reading device which reads an image to produce image data;
an extracting device which extracts additional data embedded in the image data
read by said reading device;

~~a counter which counts a total number of pixels in an area of the image having a density equal to or larger than a predetermined value, wherein said decision device performs the decision by comparing the number of pixels measured by said counter with the additional data[.]]; and~~

a decision device which decides, based on a comparison of the additional data extracted by said extracting device with the number of pixels equal to or larger than the predetermined value determined by the counter, whether the image data is forged or not.

45. (Currently Amended) A data processor comprising:

a reading device which reads an image to produce image data;
an extracting device which extracts a plurality of sets of additional data embedded in image data read by said reading device; and
a decision device which decides whether the image data is ~~e-counterfeited~~forged or not, by comparing the plurality of sets of additional data extracted by said extracting device.

46. (Currently Amended) A method of processing data comprising the steps of:

reading an image to produce image data;
extracting additional data embedded in a plurality of positions in the read image data; and
deciding, based on a comparison of the extracted additional data from at least one of the plurality of positions with the additional data extracted from at least one of the other of the plurality of positions, whether the image data is ~~e-counterfeited~~forged or not.

47. (Currently Amended) ~~A method according to claim 46, further comprising the step of~~ A method of processing data comprising the steps of:

reading an image to produce read data;
extracting additional data embedded in the read data;
measuring an area a dimension of a pattern included in the image,
deciding whether the image data is forged or not wherein the decision is performed
by comparing the measured [[area]] dimension with the additional data.

48. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of processing data comprising the steps of according to claim 46, further comprising the step of:~~

reading an image to produce image data;
counting a total number of pixels in an area of the image having a density equal to or larger than a predetermined value;
extracting additional data embedded in positions in the read image data; and
deciding, based on a comparison of the extracted additional data with the, wherein the decision is performed by comparing the measured total number of pixels in the area of the image having a density equal to or larger than a predetermined value with the additional data, whether the image data is forged or not.

49. (Currently Amended) A method of processing data comprising the steps of:

reading an image to produce image data;
extracting a plurality of sets of additional data embedded in the read image data;
and
deciding whether the image data is ~~counterfeited~~ forged or not, by comparing the plurality of sets of extracted additional data.

50. (New) A data processor according to claim 44 wherein the area is the entire image.

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51 (New) A method of processing data according to claim 48 wherein the area is the entire image.